

# A Year & A Day: Personal Pagan Paths



Presented by

## Ancient Sea Island Continuum

[AncientSIC.org](http://AncientSIC.org)

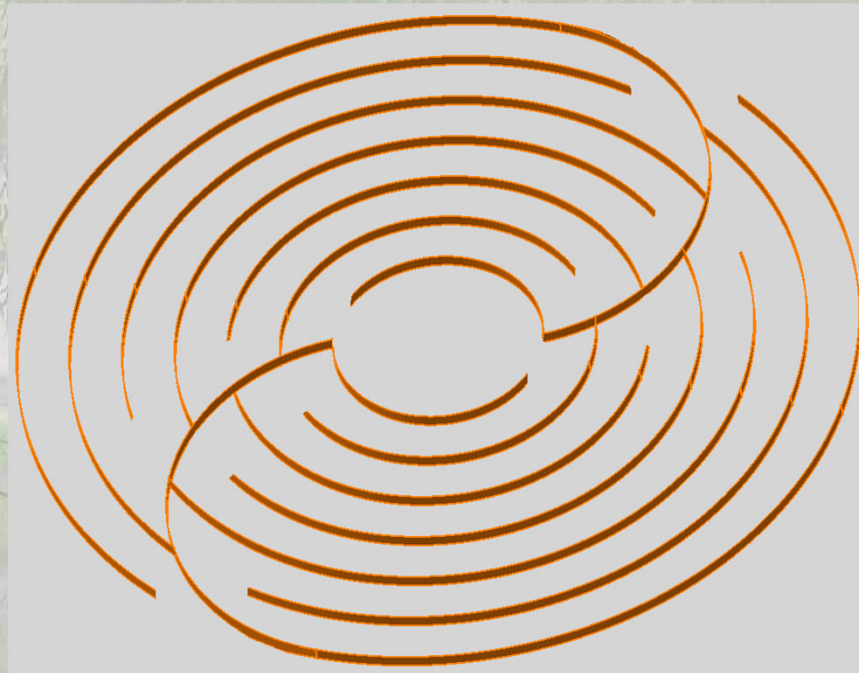
# After the Videos



- ◇ Welcoming
- ◇ Opening Reading
- ◇ Celtic Tree Month
- ◇ Beltane Sabbat
- ◇ **Origins of the Sacred**
- ◇ **Creating Sacred Space**
- ◇ Your Next Step
- ◇ Things to Come
- ◇ Dreaming Goddess

# Video Preludes

Faun (2015) Walpurgisnacht  
<https://youtu.be/kIQVjRCL6jI>



An Danzaa (2018) Beltane  
<https://youtu.be/h26riCup9cU>

# Ancient Sea Island Continuum



is the Earth-centered spiritual affinity circle of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort.

**Unitarian Universalism** is a liberal religion with positive values for living that encourages members to search for truth on many levels. **UU**s identify & draw insights from Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Indigenous, Islamic, Jewish, Neo-Pagan, secular & other religious & philosophical traditions.

*"Coming Home"*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbJ32h-YpQA>

# Common Sense

The views held by ASIC's Pagan guides may not necessarily reflect the opinions & views of the greater Pagan community or the minister, board, or congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Beaufort. While covering the essential aspects traditionally considered to be the foundation of a Pagan spiritual education, statements of ASIC guides should not be considered the Truth but only suggestions for you to consider. Statements by the guides are also not to be construed as a contract or agreement for promises of wealth, power, or spiritual salvation. The views expressed by the guides are presented only as possibilities, reflecting our experiences to help encourage you to find your own Personal Pagan Path.

*-- Your ASIC Guides*

# Opening Reading



# Opening Reading

Holy Mother,

in whom we live, move, & have our being,

from you all things emerge  
and unto you all things return...

Open our hearts this blessed day,  
touch our bodies & our minds.

Walk with us through the gates of power:  
in shadow & starlight, in fire meeting earth,

in the wind on the ocean,

& the sweet kiss of life.

Blessed be our journey.

# Tree Month - Willow

April 15 – May 12

To Celts, the world came forth from two scarlet serpent eggs, hidden in willow branches. This tree of enchantment, sacred to the moon, symbolizes the Female. A willow Goddess is Cerridwen, the wise old woman. The hare's rapid movements, representing intuition, hidden teachings, adaptation, & fertility, were used for divination.





# The Wheel of the Year



# Beltane - Blazing Fire



- ◇ Celtic – May Day
- ◇ Germanic – May Eve, *Walpurgisnacht*
- ◇ People leap bonfires, herd animals pass between bale fires
- ◇ May Pole celebrates fertility & balance between sexes
- ◇ Many popular references (ex: Stairway to Heaven)

# Calton Hill



# Beltane - Calton Hill



video: <http://youtu.be/J5hBVc5rVU4>

# Maia Lyon-Daw

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Home

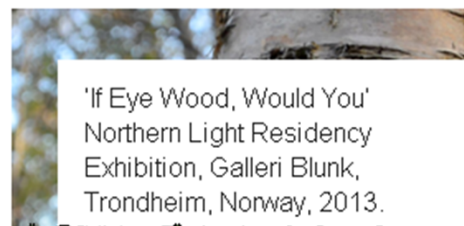
About

Performances & Exhibitions

MA Thesis

Sapphire Dice

Maia Lyon-Daw is a multi-media artist and researcher from central Scotland currently based in Amsterdam. Her work includes dynamic Future Primitive installations and performances exploring such themes as ritual, experience, nature and the psyche. She is the founder of the public platforms Sapphire Dice Gallery and Cottage Industry Records, and through these has curated over 50 artists, performers and musicians since 2008. Her current initiative is a virtual gallery space where the curator, artist, artwork, space and audience all work together in collaborative symbiosis.



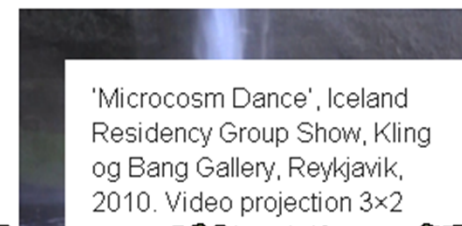
'If Eye Wood, Would You'  
Northern Light Residency  
Exhibition, Galleri Blunk,  
Trondheim, Norway, 2013.



'Beeple, Bees Are People,  
Human Rights For Bees'  
Installation, Gallery View.  
Northern Light Residency  
Exhibition at Galleri Blunk,



'Flock' ('Earth Shrine' detail),  
2016. Gallery View.



'Microcosm Dance', Iceland  
Residency Group Show, Kling  
og Bang Gallery, Reykjavik,  
2010. Video projection 3x2

# The Journey Ahead

## ◇ *What is 'A Year & A Day' about?*

- Teaches the essentials of modern Paganism so you can validate your spiritual yearnings
- Delivers critical knowledge, insight, & inspiration of living in harmony with sacred, local Magic
- Enables you to cooperate, share your values, and earn respect, even from those of different beliefs

## ◇ *Is it for you?*

- There is only one way to be find out



- Follow the path you create... for a year & a day

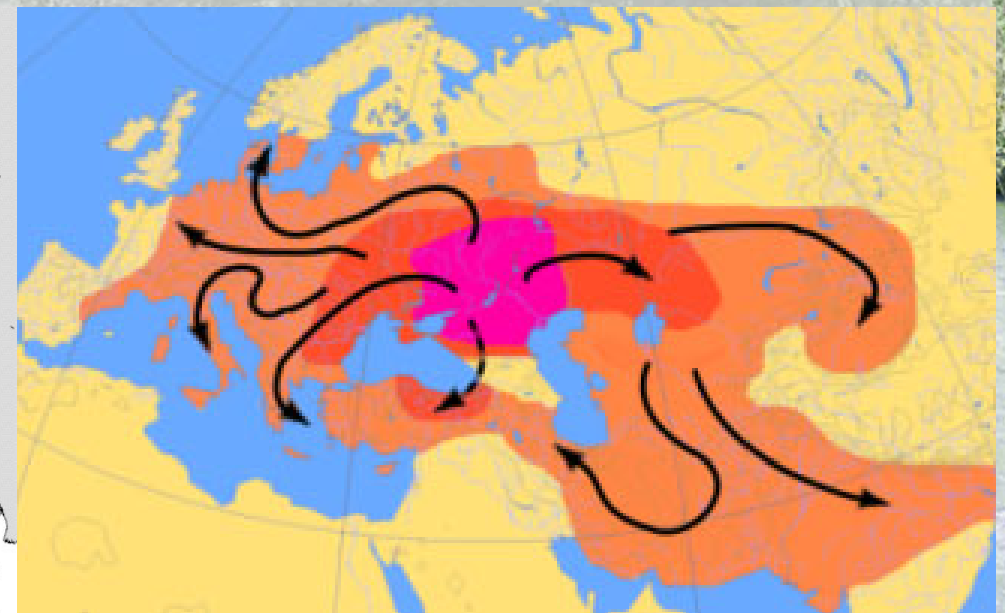
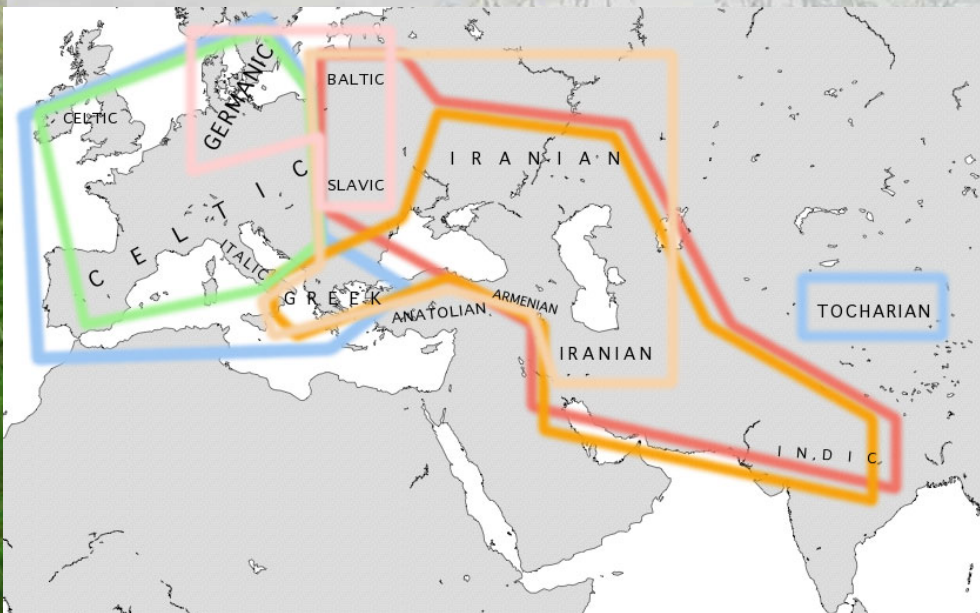
# A Year & A Day

- ◇ Modern Paganism ◇ Ethics & Morality ◇
- Natural Elements ◇ Correspondences ◇
- Blessings ◇ Origins of the Sacred ◇ Creating
- Sacred Space ◇ Celebrating Seasons ◇
- Meanings of Magic ◇ Esbats ◇ Grounding ◇
- Tools of the Craft ◇ Altars ◇ Circle Etiquette ◇
- Labyrinths ◇ The Process of Ritual ◇ Music &
- Chants ◇ Worship Encounters ◇ Meditation ◇
- Invocations ◇ Spells ◇ Outdoor Circles ◇ Rites
- of Passage ◇ Divination ◇ Self-Dedication ◇

# Paradise Lost

## ◇ *Kurgan Hypothesis*

- Kurgan means round funeral mounds
- Nomadic warriors from Black Sea steppes
- Multiple expansions from 5<sup>th</sup> Millenium BCE
- Linguistic → Artifacts → Ethnology → Religion





# Old Europe vs New

## ◇ *Marija Gimbutas*

- 1921 – 1994
- UCLA archaeologist

## ◇ *Partnership Culture*

- Goddess centered
- Egalitarian families/tribes
- Caregiving, sharing values

## ◇ *Dominator Culture*

- Male god(s)
- Patriarchal
- Authoritarian
- Maintain relations by force



# Origins of the Sacred

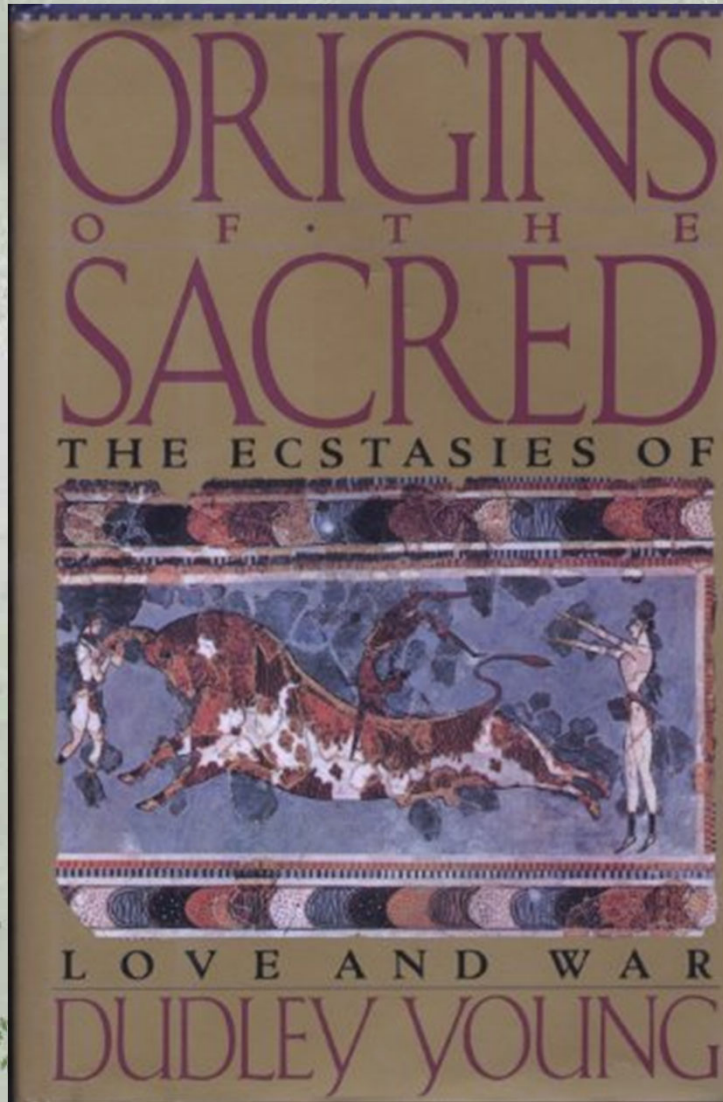


Humans encounter the transcendent with violent & dangerous tendencies.

Without proper ritual, opening ourselves to divinity can destroy society, notably in war & sex.

Without effective religion, males fulfill their needs outside legal boundaries... exploding into mindless, rampant violence.

# Repairing The Wound



Modern organized religion doesn't serve our needs. Only acts as an escape valve with enough sacredness to relieve some longings (within defined, enforced constraints).

We must reach back to our primitive past and recapture the full range of human emotion as we also embrace the science of the present.

# Sacred Space

“ There is no place  
that is not holy ground.  
When we are present –  
oriented to East and West,  
North and South,  
oriented in and out –  
we find the sacred waiting,  
everywhere. ”



T Thorn Coyle

# Creating Sacred Space

## ◇ *Prepare*

- i. Place (inside, in Nature)
- ii. Access, weather
- iii. Size (personal, group)
- iv. Mark, scribe, or delineate

## ◇ *Purify*

- iv. Purify, cleanse
- v. Declare intent
- vi. Ground
- vii. Become present





# Sacred Space - Outdoors



# Sacred Space - Outdoors





# Sacred Space - Indoors



# Sacred Space - Indoors



# Seminar at CHS

## *Sacred Lands and Spiritual Landscapes*

COSMOGRAPHY OF THE PAGAN SOUL

APRIL 12-13, 2013

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

*featuring author and scholar Ronald Hutton  
with Wendy Griffin and Jonathan Leader*

*Presented by Cherry Hill Seminary and University of South Carolina*

# Your Next Step

Use the blessings you researched in the previous class & your sources for correspondences to create & bless your own **sacred space**.

For a live performance of Heilung's "Krigsgaldr" watch:

[https://youtu.be/QRg\\_8NNPTD8](https://youtu.be/QRg_8NNPTD8)

For reaction and analysis by a vocal coach/opera singer to a live performance watch:

[https://youtu.be/xKKF-B\\_eYTO](https://youtu.be/xKKF-B_eYTO)

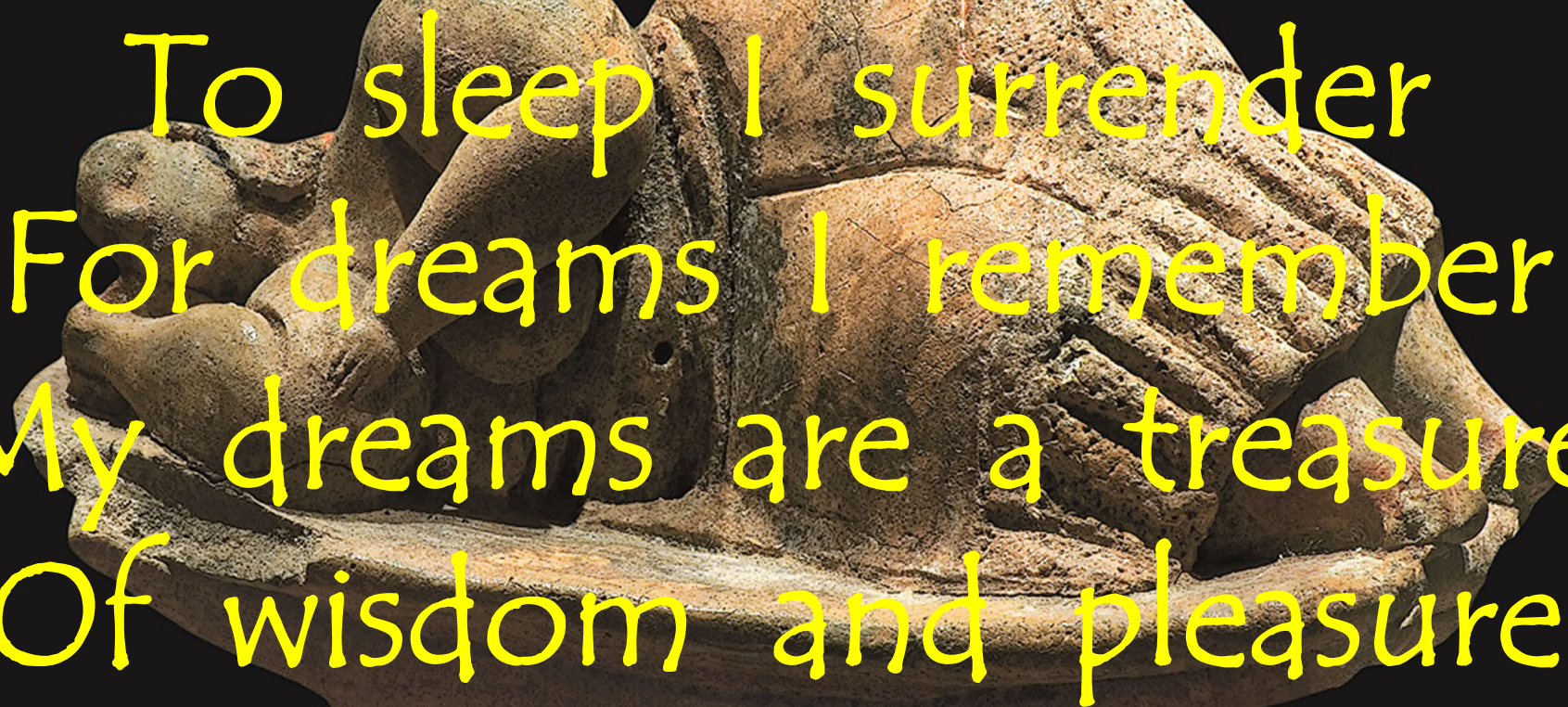
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# Dreaming Goddess



# Dreaming Goddess



To sleep I surrender  
For dreams I remember  
My dreams are a treasure  
Of wisdom and pleasure

-- Gail Wood

# A Classical Pagan Canon

Adler, Margot. *Drawing down the moon: witches, druids, goddess-worshippers and other pagans in america today*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1987.

Eisler, Riane. *The chalice and the blade: our history, our future*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1987.

Starhawk [Miriam Simos]. *The Spiral Dance: A Rebirth of the Ancient Religion of the Great Goddess*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1979.

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Hutton, Ronald. *The triumph of the moon: a history of modern pagan witchcraft*. New York: Oxford, 1999.

Graves, Robert. *The White Goddess: A Historical Grammar of Poetic Myth*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1948.

Frazer, Sir James. *The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion*. 1890.

Telesco, Patricia, *A Victorian Grimoire: Enchantment, Romance, Magic*. Saint Paul: Llewellyn Publications, 1992

Starhawk, Baker, D., & Hill, A. (1998). *Circle round: Raising children in goddess traditions*. New York: Bantam.

Starhawk, Baker, Diane, Hill, Ann. *Circle round: raising children in goddess traditions*. New York: Bantam Books, 2000.

Lipp, Deborah. *The elements of ritual: air, fire, water & earth in the wiccan circle*. Saint Paul: Llewellyn Publications, 2003.

Cunningham, S. (1989). *Wicca: A guide for the solitary practitioner*. Saint Paul: Llewellyn.



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